

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Notice to Mariners is published by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), under the authority of Department of Defense Directive 5105.40, to advise mariners of important matters affecting navigational safety, including new hydrographic discoveries, changes in channels and navigational aids, etc. (U.S. Code Title 10, Sec. 442 and Title 44, Sec. 1336 refer). Nothing in the arrangement of information implies endorsement or acceptance by NIMA in matters affecting the status and boundaries of States and territories. The Notice to Mariners presents corrective information affecting charts, NIMA Hydrographic Products Catalog, Coast Pilots, Sailing Directions, Fleet Guides, USCG Light Lists, NIMA List of Lights, Radio Navigational Aids and other products produced by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, National Ocean Service and U.S. Coast Guard.

Information for the Notice to Mariners is contributed by the following Agencies: National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) (Department of Defense) for waters outside the territorial limits of the United States; National Ocean Service (NOS) (Department of Commerce), which is charged with the surveys and charting of the coasts and harbors of the United States and its territories; the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) (Department of Transportation), which is responsible for the safety of life at sea and the establishment and operation of aids to navigation; and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Department of Defense), which is charged with the improvement of rivers and harbors of the United States. In addition, important contributions are made by foreign hydrographic offices and cooperating observers of all nationalities.

For further information concerning NIMA hydrographic products and services, including the Maritime Safety Information Center Website, users may contact:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>DSN</u>	<u>FAX</u>
Maritime Safety Information Center	301-227-2588	287-2588	301-227-5745
World-Wide Navigational Warning Service	301-227-3147	287-3147	301-227-3731
Fleet Liaison Officer	301-227-3120	287-3120	301-227-4211
Maritime Safety Information Center Website	301-227-3296	287-3296	301-227-4211
Notice to Mariners: Regions 1 and 2	301-227-3122	287-3122	301-227-3175
Notice to Mariners: Regions 3 thru 9	301-227-3146	287-3146	301-227-3175
Sailing Directions, Fleet Guides	301-227-3183	287-3183	301-227-3174
Navigation Science Publications	301-227-3120	287-3120	301-227-3731
Distribution Issues	301-227-7652	287-7652	301-227-4211

The Maritime Safety Information Center Website can be accessed via the NIMA Homepage (www.nima.mil) under the Safety of Navigation icon or directly at (<http://pollux.nss.nima.mil>). For your convenience NIMA provides three e-mail addresses. For information affecting Notice to Mariners use NavNotices@nima.mil, for information affecting Sailing Directions and all other navigational publications use SDPUBS@nima.mil, for information concerning the Maritime Safety Information Center Website, use webmaster@nima.mil.

Mariners are requested to notify NIMA of discrepancies in charts and publications, using the Marine Information Report and Suggestion Sheet at the back of this Notice to Mariners. This form should also be used to report permanent changes, additions, or deletions from charted or published information. Reports which constitute an immediate hazard to navigation should be sent to the nearest NAVAREA Coordinator via coast radio stations. All reports are greatly appreciated. Marine Information Report and Suggestion sheets received during the past week were submitted by the following observers:

Observer	Ship/Organization
Jay T. Stewart	ITB MOBILE
QM1 Dave Carrig	USCGC Galveston Island

Cover Photo: USCGC HEALY (WAGB 20) is our nation's latest multi-mission polar icebreaker and research vessel. She joins the **USCGC POLAR STAR** (WAGB 10) and **POLAR SEA** (WAGB 11) in performing operations satisfying a broad spectrum of scientific and icebreaking requirements in all polar regions. Built by Avondale Industries, she was launched on 15 November 1997 and commissioned on 21 August 2000. At 420 feet in length, a beam of 82 feet and a full displacement of 16,000 tons, she is the largest Coast Guard cutter ever built. The **HEALY** has more than 4,200 square feet of scientific laboratory space, numerous electronic sensors and accommodations for 50 scientists. She is designed to break up to four and one half feet of ice continuously at three knots and can operate in temperatures as low as minus 50 degrees Fahrenheit. The **USCGC HEALY** is named in honor of Captain Michael A. Healy, Commanding Officer of the U.S. Revenue Cutter **BEAR** from 1886 to 1895 and the foremost seaman and navigator of his time in the Bering Sea and Alaskan arctic regions. Captain Healy and the **BEAR** proved to be a perfect match, a marriage of vessel capability and unrivaled ice seamanship that became legend.